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# Berlin Admits Fierce Counter-Attacks By Heaviest Soviet Tanks BRITISH PLANES LENNINGRAD BATTLE

**M**R. CHURCHILL'S PLEDGE OF QUICK AID TO RUSSIA HAS, ACCORDING TO ROME RADIO LAST NIGHT, BEEN ALREADY REDEEMED. FOR THE STATION DECLARED THAT BRITISH PLANES ARE BEING USED IN THE TERRIFIC BATTLE FOR LENINGRAD, FIERCELY DEFENDED KEY CITY IN THE NORTHERN SECTOR OF THE FIGHTING.

This statement does not imply that British pilots are flying the planes; nor is it likely that they are doing so.

Meanwhile, German difficulties on the Eastern front are growing. Heavy rains are falling in the Leningrad sector; and the approach of winter presents new problems to the Nazi High Command.

In addition, fierce Soviet counter-attacks by strong forces, including tanks of the heaviest types, are causing the Germans concern. This admission was reported yesterday by the Berlin correspondent of the Zurich newspaper, "Neue Zuercher Zeitung," who stated:

"From reports obtainable in Berlin, it is apparent that the Russian counter-attacks are temporarily forcing the German troops to the defensive."

After declaring that Leningrad was being bombarded by German heavy artillery, the correspondent continued: "Detailed reports from other sectors of the front show that extremely fierce counter-attacks have been begun by the Russians."

"These are being carried out by strong forces, particularly tanks, among which some of the heaviest types are conspicuous."

The heaviest attacks appear to be taking place on the sector held by Marshal Timoshenko's army, but in the Dnieper sector the army of Marshal Budennyi is developing equally telling offensive activity against German bridgeheads on the east side of the Dnieper and, in many places, they claim to have crossed the river."

The Soviet Air Force continues to play an important part in the battle. According to the "Red Star," organ of the Russian Army, the Soviet Air Force has crushed the Nazi defensive system on the western sector with attacks on enemy artillery and infantry.

Communications yesterday were giving no details of the terrific battle raging along the front.

MOSCOW said: "Last night, Friday, our troops fought the enemy along the whole front."

BERLIN said: "Attacking operations on the Eastern front are proceeding favorably."

Of the battle for Leningrad, there was little news. GERMANY continues steadily to repulse Nazi attacks. Attempts to break through the line of defence have failed, says Moscow, which claims the capture of tanks, guns, ammunition and prisoners.

**SUBMARINE P.33 CONSIDERED LOST**  
A British submarine P.33 was last night announced as missing. R. D. Whitely-Wilkinson, R.N., is overdue, and must be considered lost.

The next-of-kin have been informed.

**ENINGRAD DEFENCES CLAW**  
HUN RAIDERS FROM THE SKIES

Moscow, Saturday. Nazi planes are being clawed from the skies in dozens in their attempts to bomb the outskirts of Leningrad, according to a Leningrad dispatch to the official Tass agency tonight.

The dispatch gives a vivid description of some of these attempted raids.

"Twenty Junkers I attacked anti-aircraft batteries on the approaches to Leningrad," it

says. "Some bombs went wide of the mark."

"Our gunners opened fire. Junkers were immediately transformed into flying torpedoes, and crashed into the batteries."

"The din of gun firing and exploding bombs filled the air for many kilometres around."

"The fall of the sixth plane threw the Germans into confusion, and they started circling in disorder."

"The gunners took advantage of this and downed one plane of another."

"The Nazis made three more raids, but between twenty, four

**HITLER** and Mussolini photographed during their recent five-day meeting, at which "serious disagreements" are reported to have taken place.



**"Won't Fight Far From Home"**

**Finns Do Not Want Conquests**

Stockholm, Saturday.

FINLAND'S reluctance to carry on a war far from her own frontiers is indicated by articles in two Helsinki papers today.

"From the beginning Finland has been engaged in a war of defence, and of ensuring the continuation of her peaceful existence," writes the Suomen Sosialidemokratia.

"It, despite expectations, the Russian army succeeds, without withdrawing into the interior of Finland."

"If it is not possible immediately to secure the sword by the ploughshare, in our opinion we are approaching a stage in our war where the raising of two years of war will begin to require the employment of the people in reconstruction."

"Hulvud Tadoladet" says: "Our warriors have penetrated enemy territory deeply in certain sectors. Strategic viewpoints will decide whether similar offensives are to be undertaken in other directions."

"The decision rests with the military authorities, who are aware that the people's will is not directed towards conquest, but craves solid and sure guarantees for peace."—Reuter.

**POLISH CLAIMS ON FRENCH GOLD**  
CENTRAL BANK of Poland has obtained a writ of attachment against £18,000,000, part of a vast stock of French gold in the United States, according to the "New York Times."

The Central Bank claims that its gold reserves, sent to France before the Germans took Warsaw, were later permitted to fall into German hands.—B.U.P.

## American Pilots Drowned U-BOAT CHIEF WAS 'ASHAMED'

**FOUR AMERICAN PILOTS ON THEIR WAY TO JOIN THE RAF WERE DROWNED WHEN THEIR SHIP WAS TORPEDOED IN THE ATLANTIC BY A U-BOAT. TWO OTHERS OF THE PARTY OF 11 RECRUITS WERE INJURED.**

**One Cologne Raid Kills 1,800**

MORE THAN 1,200 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN A SINGLE NIGHT BY THE RAF ON THE INDUSTRIAL REGION SOUTH OF COLOGNE.

According to reports reaching Israel, the Independent Belgian Agency in this region is very low. Constant air raids have exhausted the people.

Some 55,000 refugees from Cologne have arrived in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Railways to the Grand Duchy are crowded with war material for the war against Russia.

**BERLIN OFF THE AIR**  
Berlin radio went off the air last night at 9:30.—B.U.P.

**CRASHED BLAZING PLANE ON NAZIS**  
Moscow, Saturday. WHEN A Soviet bomber caught fire attacking Nazi infantry, the crew decided to bail out of their lives dearly. They sent their blazing machine hurtling into a mass of German troops.

The incident is described by "Red Star," organ of the Soviet army, which says that the crew volunteered for the attack.

Before their machine caught fire they heavily bombed and machine-gunned the Nazis.—Reuter.

**CASH CROSSWORDS:**  
PAGE SEVEN  
RADIO: BACK PAGE

**Direct Hits In Tripoli Raid**

**RAF'S PORT STASHED BY RAF**

**TRIPOLI, Mussolini's vital North African seaport, was again heavily battered by heavy bombers of the RAF and aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm during Thursday night.**

Many direct hits were scored on motor transport depots. Several buildings collapsed and large fires were started among vehicles and other buildings.

At Barce, a strong force of heavy bombers attacked railway sidings, workshops, barracks and the aero-drome.

A number of direct hits caused fires to break out among buildings in the target area.

Low-level machine-gun attacks were made on tents, buildings and dispersed aircraft. One of our bombers also machine-gunned A.A. gun positions, silencing two guns.

**DIVE-BOMBED**  
Aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm carried out a dive-bombing and machine-gun attack on an enemy landing ground, where bombs fell all round the perimeter.

Secondary bombs dropped among dispersed aircraft and some bombs fell among tents and stores, starting fires.

During Thursday night aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm dropped bombs on the Sicilian aerodromes of Germini and Calatone. Explosions and fires were caused.

During the same night, enemy aircraft attempted to raid Malta. RAF night fighters shot them down into the sea.

From all these operations one of our aircraft is missing.

**'Meet Nazi Challenge'**

—Willkie

New York, Saturday. **MR. WENDELL WILLKIE**, broadcasting today, urged President Roosevelt to meet "with determination and force" the "challenge of savage, bestial might" to the American right to the freedom of the seas.

Declaring he spoke for the overwhelming sentiment among Americans, Mr. Willkie added: "I know you hope, our President serves notice on Nazi broadcastings that the United States expects its ships to go unmolested in their peaceful trade to the Atlantic, and that those interfering with them will receive the results they are entitled to."

The Americans are waiting now to give the Germans something of their own back.

A dramatic interview with the U-boat commander was described by William Beattie, of Belfast, a member of the House of Commons, in a waterlogged lifeboat when the submarine surfaced near them.

The commander, said Beattie, "seemed ashamed" of what he had done.

"I asked him if he could spare some fresh water, and he gave an order to one of his men. The man came back with four tins of meat and two bottles of rum for us."

"As the submarine moved away it accidentally crashed into our boat and split the stern. The commander apologized and told us to have courage as we should soon be picked up."

**LORD HALIFAX ON THE AIR**  
Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, will broadcast the tale in the BBC Home Service, at 9:20 p.m. on Tuesday.

**"Stop Japan Now," Say Americans**

New York, Saturday.

**A**N overwhelming majority of Americans are willing to risk war with Japan.

In a Gallup poll just completed, the question asked was: "Do you think the United States should now take steps to keep Japan from becoming more powerful, even if this means risking war?"

Seventy per cent replied in the affirmative, 18 per cent in the negative. Twelve per cent were undecided.—Reuter.

**GERMANY ACCUSES U.S. DESTROYER OF ATTACKING U-BOAT FIRST**

## Washington Rejects 'Incredible' Charge

**BERLIN CHARGES MADE LAST NIGHT THAT THE AMERICAN DESTROYER GREER WAS THE AGGRESSOR IN ITS RECENT BATTLE WITH A U-BOAT, WERE REJECTED BY U.S. OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON AS "UNBELIEVABLE."**

The Nazis, in a statement broadcast by Berlin radio, tried to defend the U-boat's torpedo attack on the Greer by claiming that the submarine was attacked for more than two hours before her commander released torpedoes in self-defence.

Washington officials were astonished by Berlin's attempt to gloss over the attack.

Senator Connally, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, commented:

"The Nazis might as well learn now that we are going to defend our ships and our citizens."

"The fact that the Nazis admit that a German submarine was involved amounts to a confession that it was acting under the orders of the Nazi government in firing on our destroyer."

"This spirit of assassination directed against our ships, our nations, and arrogant contempt for the United States, dropped so into the last war. We do not want to become involved in the present war, but if our ships' citizens are attacked, we are going to defend them."

Senator Connally suggested that the Berlin statement was merely a ploy to make it appear that the U-boat had not been sunk.

Berlin's sensational statement only tried to excuse the action of the U-boat, but accused President Roosevelt of trying to provoke war. It revealed that the enemy counter-attack took 220 miles K.W. of Iceland and lasted for more than nine hours.

Here is the Nazi statement: "On Thursday, at 62 deg. 31 min. N. and 27 deg. 06 min. W., at 1230 a German submarine was attacked with depth charges and torpedoes in the German waters. The German submarine was in a position to establish the nationality of the attacking destroyer."

In justifiable self-defence, at 1429, the submarine fired two torpedoes which missed. The destroyer continued the chase with depth charges until nearly midnight.

"If an official American source, the U.S.A. Navy Department, states that the attack originated with the Greer, it is only with a view to giving a veneer of legality to the attack of an American destroyer on a German submarine."

The attack itself is a proof that, contrary to his assertions, Roosevelt had not only ordered American destroyers to proceed to report the location of German submarines, but had also ordered them to attack.

"He attempts, therefore, to prove an incident in order to incite the American nation to war against Germany."

The German version confirms President Roosevelt's statement that the Greer was attacked in self-defence on the Greer, and that it happened in daylight.

The U.S. Navy Department, questioned last night on the Nazi statement, replied, "No comment."

**WAVELL FORECASTS V-DRIVE**

**WE** are now rapidly approaching the day when we should be able to meet the aggressor and find ourselves in a position to turn the tables on him," said General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief, India, today.

**NEVER BE WITHOUT GUINNESS AT HOME**

**Have a GUINNESS and a good night's rest**

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